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CBS Allayed Few Doubts

CBS can be given credit for a good college try, but it is highly unlikely that its series of four hour-long telecasts on the Warren Report did much to dispel the doubts of those who might have believed that the report fell somewhere short of telling the full truth about the assassination of President John F. Kennedy.

In some respects, the CBS special raised more doubts than it allayed. This is particularly so in the case of two of the nation's top investigative and intelligence arms — the highly-respected Federal Bureau of Investigation and the almost wraith-like Central Intelligence Agency.

The network came to the conclusion that "it is not frivolous" to suspect that Lee Harvey Oswald, the alleged assassin, had some connection with either the FBI or the CIA. There are strong suggestions of, if not wrong-doing, at least not doing all that they might have done in connection with the slaying. We did not hear enough supportive evidence to shake our confidence in the established reliability of the FBI. About the mystery-enshrouded CIA we cannot be quite so positive.

Broadly, the CBS report tends to uphold the Warren Commission's findings, but here again doubts persist. One member of the Commission itself admitted that the now defunct body might have let it-

self be "rushed" into publication, that it permitted itself to be swayed by excessive concern about the sensitivities of the Kennedy family, and that it failed to demand as it should have that certain photographic and X-ray evidence be made a part of the record.

CBS has said, in effect, that the Warren Report does a good job — as far as it goes. The trouble is — and this is what niggles at the minds of so many Americans — that it apparently did not go far enough. That, it seems to us, is the crux of the whole controversy over the Commission's findings. And that is the one thing above all that CBS failed to put to rest.

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